Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 PHNOM 06030 061259Z

40

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

----- 014376

O 061200Z APR 75 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 193
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE
COMMUSSAG IMMEDIATE

SECRETPHNOMPENH6030

EXDIS

FOR ASST SENY HABIB FROM AMBASSADOR

DEPT PLEASE PASS SECDEF AND JCS

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: AEMR, CB, US

SUBJECT: EVACUATION OF PHNOM PENH: MILITARY SITUATION

REF: CHMEDTC 060855Z APR 75

1. I WISH TO DRAW YOUR ATTENTION TO REF MESSAGE, WHICH POINTS TO THE SEVERAL POSSIBLE WAYS THE MILITARY SITUATION AROUND THE PHNOM PENH DEFENSE PERIMETER AND IN THE CITY ITSELF COULD DETERIORATE WITH LITTLE OR NO NOTICE. THERE WAS A LULL IN THE FIGHTING YESTERDAY, BUT I AM CONVINCED THIS IS ONLY TEMPORARY AND IT MAY MEAN SOMETHING WORSE: THAT THE KC ARE PREPOSITIONING THEIR STOCK OF 105MM ARTILLERY AND 107MM ROCKET AMMUNITION FOR AN ALL-OUT ATTACK BY FIRE ON THE CITY DESIGNED TO CAUSE GENERAL PANIC AND BRING THE GKR DOWN. FANK'S STAFF IS IN A STATE OF SUSPENDED ANIMATION, WHILE THE AARMA'S REPORT THAT THE TROOPS ON THE PERIMETER ARE APATHETIC. THE WHOLE SITUATION MAY UNRAVEL BEFORE CONGRESS HAS HAD A CHANCE TO ACT ON THE PRESIDENT'S APPEAL. (MOOSE AND MEISSNER, WHO VISITED HERE TODAY. TOLD ME THERE IS ALMOST NO CHANCE CONGRESS WILL SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 PHNOM 06030 061259Z

VOTE ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE.)

2. FANK AND THE GKR SEEM TO BE EXPECTING US TO PRODUCE SOME MIRACLE TO SAVE THEM. YOU AND I KNOW THERE WILL BE NO SUCH MIRACLE. MY PRESENT GUESS IS THAT OUR FINAL EXTRACTION WILL HAVE TO BE CARRIED OUT UNDER HOSTILE FIRE. I HAVE CONCURRED IN CHIEF, MEDTC'S REQUEST THAT EAGLE PULL RESPONSE TIME BE REDUCED FROM SIX TO THREE HOURS (REF MESSAGE).

NOTE BY OCT: NOT PASSED.

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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TAGS: AEMR, CB, US To: STATE

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